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Mid-Decade Estimates of Population
of Boston, By Neighborhood,
By Age Group. Sept. 1977.

Boston Redevelopment Authority
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MID-DECADE ESTIMATES OF POPULATION OF BOSTON, BY NEIGHBORHOOD, BY AGE GROUP

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Boston Redevelopment Authority
Research Department

September 1977

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Mid-Decade

The mid-decade population estimates by age groups for neighborhoods were derived from existing information about current population and its probable distribution by age group. It is generally agreed that the City of Boston's population has been relatively stable since 1970. Both the current Federal Census estimate[1] and the State Census for 1975 place Boston's population in the 637,000-638,000 range.[2] The availability of State Census counts by ward and precinct enabled their assembly by BRA Planning Districts, i.e., neighborhoods. These total neighborhood populations were then distributed by age groups.

The distribution of neighborhood populations by age group was accomplished using the 1970 Federal Census age distributions by neighborhood and 1985 age distributions derived from the 1985 population targets developed by the Research Department several years ago. These two sources provided information on age distributions at two time points. The extent to which the

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[1] U.S. Department of Commerce News, "Five Cities in the Southwest Now Among the Nation's 10 Most Populous, According to 1975 Census Bureau Estimates". CB77-69, April 14, 1977.

[2] In 1975 the census-taking procedures and definitions used by Massachusetts officials were changed to conform closely to Federal procedures and definitions. Therefore, for the first time, State Census figures can be compared meaningfully with decennial Federal Census counts.

neighborhood populations might show conformity to the path of projected changes was critically assessed, bringing the knowledge of BRA neighborhood planners and any currently existing information for the neighborhood to bear. The age distributions presented here were developed from this assessment process. These neighborhood estimates are currently being reviewed, taking into consideration available information on vital statistics and school age population.

Table 1

MID-DECADE POPULATION ESTIMATES FOR THE CITY OF BOSTON AND ITS NEIGHBORHOODS BY AGE GROUPS*

	1975 State Census	Age Groups						
		0-4	5-14	15-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65+
East Boston	38,313	2,475	5,546	3,258	3,390	9,223	9,485	4,936
Charlestown	16,877	905	2,620	1,758	1,494	4,499	3,641	1,960
South Boston	37,919	2,386	5,505	3,542	3,129	8,158	9,386	5,814
Central	24,350	584	1,347	1,261	3,148	7,693	6,920	3,397
Back Bay/ Beacon Hill	29,553	375	406	4,012	9,170	8,197	4,392	3,002
South End	24,688	1,279	2,696	1,754	2,455	7,034	5,968	3,503
Fenway/Kenmore	34,465	422	381	9,034	12,601	5,446	3,389	3,193
Allston/ Brighton	67,405	2,415	5,327	5,801	17,330	15,012	11,713	9,808
Jamaica Plain	45,151	2,971	5,808	4,235	6,062	9,901	9,095	7,080
Roxbury	62,813	6,492	12,327	6,044	5,891	15,775	10,726	5,558
N. Dorchester	31,991	2,236	6,072	3,449	3,817	6,673	6,197	3,547
S. Dorchester	71,180	5,513	13,164	7,026	5,926	16,024	14,295	9,232
Roslindale	32,351	2,008	4,796	2,948	2,574	7,189	7,617	5,219
West Roxbury	35,628	2,017	5,177	3,168	2,651	8,170	8,727	5,719
Hyde Park	37,628	2,147	5,973	3,254	3,250	9,292	9,225	4,486
Mattapan	47,674	4,246	8,868	4,162	4,379	11,859	9,295	4,864
Boston	637,986	38,471	86,013	64,706	87,267	150,145	130,071	81,318

* State Census counts were tabulated for BRA planning districts. Age distributions were computed to agree with these planning district totals.

Source: BRA Research Department.

Table 2

PERCENT DISTRIBUTION OF MID-DECADE POPULATION BY AGE GROUP AND NEIGHBORHOOD

	Total Population	Age Groups						
		0-4	5-14	15-19	20-24	25-44	45-64	65+
East Boston	100.0	6.5	14.5	8.5	8.8	24.1	24.8	12.9
Charlestown	100.0	5.4	15.5	10.4	8.9	26.7	21.6	11.6
South Boston	100.0	6.3	14.5	9.3	8.2	21.5	24.8	15.3
Central	100.0	2.4	5.5	5.2	12.9	31.6	28.4	14.0
Back Bay/ Beacon Hill	100.0	1.3	1.4	13.6	31.0	27.7	14.9	10.2
South End	100.0	5.2	10.9	7.1	9.9	28.5	24.2	14.2
Fenway/Kenmore	100.0	1.2	1.1	26.2	36.6	15.8	9.8	9.3
Allston/Brighton	100.0	3.6	7.9	8.6	25.7	22.3	17.4	14.6
Jamaica Plain	100.0	6.6	12.9	9.4	13.4	21.9	20.1	15.7
Roxbury	100.0	10.3	19.6	9.6	9.4	25.1	17.1	8.8
North Dorchester	100.0	7.0	19.0	10.8	11.9	20.9	19.4	11.1
South Dorchester	100.0	7.7	18.5	9.9	8.3	22.5	20.1	13.0
Roslindale	100.0	6.2	14.8	9.1	8.0	22.2	23.5	16.1
West Roxbury	100.0	5.7	14.5	8.9	7.4	22.9	24.5	16.1
Hyde Park	100.0	5.7	15.9	8.6	8.6	24.7	24.5	11.9
Mattapan	100.0	8.9	18.6	8.7	9.2	24.9	19.5	10.2
Boston	100.0	6.0	13.5	10.1	13.7	23.5	20.4	12.7

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Mid-decade estimates of population of Boston, by neighborhood, by age group.

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